

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A process for producing an activated AlF₃ based catalyst, wherein a crude AlF₃ is treated for more than 5 hours with a gas stream at a temperature from 300°C to 450°C.
2. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the temperature is from 350°C to 400°C.
3. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1, ~~claim 1 or 2~~, wherein the crude AlF₃ is treated with the gas stream for from 6 to 50 hours.
4. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the crude AlF₃ contains at least 95 wt.% of stoichiometric AlF₃.
5. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1-~~claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the crude AlF₃ has a B.E.T surface of at least 25 m²/g.
6. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1-~~claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the gas stream contains at least one of air, hydrogen fluoride, halogenated hydrocarbon or inert gas.
7. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1-~~claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the treatment with the gas stream comprises at least 2 treatment steps with different gases.
8. (Original) The process according to claim 7, wherein the treatment with the gas stream comprises
 - (a) a treatment with an inert gas stream for at least 4 hours
 - (b) optionally, a treatment with an anhydrous hydrogen fluoride stream
 - (c) a treatment with a hydrochlorofluorocarbon-containing stream for more than 1 hour.
9. (Original) The process according to claim 7, wherein the treatment with the gas stream comprises

- (a) a treatment with an air stream for at least 2 hours
- (b) a treatment with an anhydrous hydrogen fluoride stream for at least 4 hours.

10. (Currently amended) An activated AlF₃ catalyst, obtainable according to the process of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~.

11. (Original) A process for the isomerization of a hydrochlorofluorocarbon, wherein the hydrochlorofluorocarbon is contacted with the catalyst according to claim 10.

12. (Original) The process according to claim 11 wherein the hydrochlorofluorocarbon is in the vapor state.

13. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 11 ~~claim 11 or 12~~, wherein the hydrochlorofluorocarbon comprises a mixture of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2,2-dichloroethane and 1,1,2-trifluoro-1,2-dichloroethane.

14. (Original) The process according to claim 13 wherein the isomerization is carried out at a temperature of 180 to 220°C.

15. (Currently amended) A method for the isomerization of 1,1,2-trifluoro-1,2-dichloroethane wherein the 1,1,2-trifluoro-1,2-dichloroethane, ~~preferably~~ in the vapor state, is contacted with an isomerization catalyst under a pressure of from 2 to 5 bar.